

The Junior League Newsheet
Fiftieth Anniversary Issue



Winston-Salem, North Carolina
May, 1973

Story Of A League

SCENE: Winston-Salem The Twenties

To understand the story of the Winston-Salem Junior League, you must look at the city itself, lying so peacefully in the high Piedmont with the dim misty Blue Ridge just visible fifty miles to the west.

Winston-Salem is an unusual city. Even its inhabitants know that.

In the Twenties the center of it lies around the 23 story shaft of the Reynolds Building like a medieval city around a protecting tower. And this is no accidental effect. For the Reynolds Building is the heart of the town, the top flowering of a city that literally lives off tobacco. Below and around it stretch blocks of Reynolds' factories, turning out billions of cigarettes a year (one-quarter of the world's cigarettes, at least, are made here). Nearby is another cigarette factory, a Brown-Williamson branch under the cheasty sign of a penguin. A few blocks away the tobacco



auction sheds begin, ten of them, like garages, echoing hollowly to the sing-song of the auctioneers over the flat wicker baskets and crowded with buyers from Durham and Danville and Louisville. On auction days the streets are full of tobacco farmers in overalls and when the price of tobacco goes up a point in Winston-Salem, stores dig down into their cellars for extra merchandise.

There are other businesses, too, in this town of 90,000, but they seem almost intruders into the constant talk of tobacco and cigarettes, the dark, sweet smell of tobacco in the downtown streets. There is the Chatham factory, biggest wool blanket maker in the United States, and there are Hanes hosiery mills and Hanes dyeing and finishing plants, and a medium-sized furniture business.

Outside this business section, with its humming factories and the smart shops that bear witness to the town's prosperity, and up the gentle hills, lie the houses of the men who have built and run these factories. They are remarkably large, beautiful houses done in the comfortable Georgian style that appeals to the hospitable South. They are the houses of people who live and entertain at home, filled with the antiques and surrounded by the gardens that every good Winston-Salemite loves, their tables laden with some of the best food in America. For unlike most Americans, these families remain to spend their money where they have made it. There is almost no absentee ownership in Winston-Salem.

That is why Winston-Salem is the richest city in North Carolina (it was rumored to have 50 millionaires in 1929) and one of the richest in the South. And that is why Winston-Salem life is built around men who go to work at eight in the morning, shoot, play golf, or tend their gentleman's farms over the weekends, and take both their work and their civic duties with a deep sense of responsibility. There are no night clubs in Winston-Salem and society is a pleasant, casual one. In a character book of the kind we all kept as children Junior League women might write that they like babies, bridge, gardens, movies, smart but conservative clothes, and Coca Colas.

There is another reason for this conservatism. Winston-Salem is a city of very strong churches. The church influence has helped to make the city at least nominally dry and all the churches do organized welfare work. Every woman belongs to a church circle and takes its work seriously.

There are a half dozen welfare agencies in Winston, Y's, Good Will Industries, and the like, besides the Associated Charities. Most of the big companies, like

Reynolds, have good health set-up and sick benefits, and excellent working conditions.

There is another factor in Winston-Salem, and that is again a religious one. In the south half of the town, set off by an old tinsmith's sign (a large coffee pot on a stick) lies the older of these twin towns, the Moravian settlement of Salem.

The Moravians (Germans and Bohemians) are the oldest Protestants in the world. Their houses in lovely old Salem, are unique half-timbered affairs of soft, pinky brick with prim little eyebrows of white wood over the doors, and the group keeps innumerable traditions: the hand-dipped candles and 48 pointed stars and *putzes*, or under-tree decorations, at Christmas; and, at Easter, a singularly beautiful service at dawn for which thousands of outsiders join the Moravians in Salem Square. Salem College for women is one of the oldest, as it is one of the most beautiful, in the South.

Paradoxically enough, Winston-Salem's greatest social season is founded on this Moravian feeling for Easter. Every Easter Monday the Twin City Club (which was founded, surely uniquely, as a "gentleman's club for ladies") gives the crowning festivity of its monthly dances. The Easter Monday German, which has been given annually since 1884, ranks with such events as the Baltimore Bachelors' Cotillion and New York's Charity Ball. Dancing begins at ten in the morning and parties continue through a day of luncheons and polo games to end with another club dance that lasts until three Tuesday morning. The town is thronged with out-of-town visitors; Junior Leaguers start planning their costumes (usually silk sports dresses) right after Christmas, and Winston-Salem is the only town in the country in which no mail is delivered on Easter Monday.

As might be deduced from the long tradition of the German, both Winston and Salem are old family towns. Salem is run by Frieses and Bahnsons and Shaffners and Pfohls who are descendants of the first settlers in 1766; and Winston, which was founded as a new county seat on some land bought from the Moravians, has its own traditions. An ancestor of the Grays who run Reynolds bought one of the first lots in 1849. A Norfleet founded a tobacco warehouse in 1874; a Hanes first moved into this yeoman-settled part of the state in the 1770's.

It was in this unusual and attractive town, with its family feeling, its pleasant conservative life, that the Winston-Salem League was born.

— condensed from "Cavalcade"



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of All Descriptions
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and Dancewear*

The Seventies

Winston-Salem is still an unusual city and its inhabitants still know it. The center continues to lie around the shaft of the Reynolds Building, even though it now stands in the shadow of the 27 story Wachovia Building. During its construction many referred to the Wachovia Building as the "box the Reynolds Building came in"! Our largest concern is still tobacco but now Reynolds Industries has transportation, food, aluminum, and international petroleum as its subsidiaries and other industries have joined it on the scene.

The Wachovia Building isn't the only change in the skyline. Urban renewal also paved the way for the site of the new Hall of Justice, the NCNB Plaza complete with fountain and two new high rise apartments for the elderly. The Robert E. Lee Hotel left the scene by "implosion" and in its place will be one of the finest hotels in the South, complete with underground tunnel to the Benton Convention Center. On the other side of the hotel, formerly the bus terminal, will be a city parking deck which will house an ice skating rink. But the skyline is not the only change downtown; three new pedestrian malls and the removal of overhanging signs make town more attractive, even though the majority of shoppers prefer the many outlying shopping centers.

One sees progress on all sides of the city. There are five expressways, two of which have fences covered with red climbing roses, donated by a men's civic club and planted by the city.

To the south of the city is Schlitz brewery, Western Electric and McLean Trucking; north, the Hanes Corporation, Whitaker Park Complex (part of Reynolds) Westinghouse, and Hennis Freight Lines. To the east is the Bahnson Company, a praying hands church, the Department of Social Services, the Kate B. Reynolds Family Health Center and a five story home-owned insurance company. The expression "Go west, young man" certainly applied in our town for here we see the most growth of all. The Baptist Hospital sprawls over many city blocks and has an 11 story tower complete with penthouse. Two other hospitals, one public and one private, are also west with doctors' offices in abundance.

Stratford Road, which on one end has some of the loveliest homes, and on the other restaurants, motels, service stations, warehouses and office buildings, is divided by a seven story bank and office building. Farther west are Gravely Tractor Company and Tanglewood Park, one of the most complete recreational facilities in the South.

This growth has made many citizens take a second look at zoning laws and planning boards, and as a result one of the older sections has organized an association to protect it from business encroachment. And those who have moved to the suburbs find themselves constantly fighting to keep apartments, business and more traffic away.

Federal funds have changed the complexion of our area. Housing projects complete with their own day care

centers, apartments, street improvements and programs aimed at helping poor blacks have been in the forefront in the last decade. Now in the Seventies, federal funding may be a thing of the past, and local governments and foundations may be asked to support these programs in the future.

While the physical progress of Winston-Salem is important, so are its people. They still take their work and civic duties with a deep sense of responsibility. How many communities could solicit by telephone enough financial support to show the Governor that Winston-Salem should be the site for the North Carolina School of the Arts — or through the generosity of a family move a college to a brand new campus that is now Wake Forest University? And when this community, like many others in the Sixties, experienced a race riot, citizens and industry joined together to try to correct the ills. Also under a court order for massive cross-busing, the Chamber of Commerce came up with Project Community to foster understanding, and volunteers offered their assistance with the myriad of problems facing the school system.

These are the same citizens who support the nation's first Arts Council, the United Fund, a Voluntary Action Center, a symphony orchestra, a civic ballet, a Little Theater, two art galleries, Reynolda House, a nature museum, civic organizations, and last but not least, their churches.

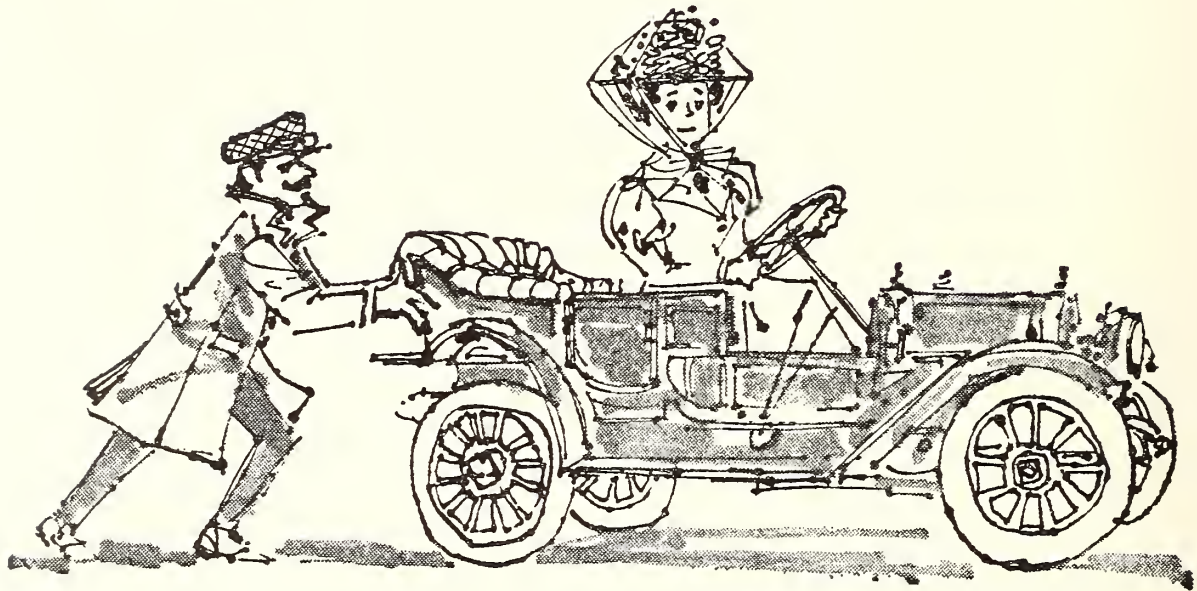
The religious influence is still a strong one in our city. The two major colleges are church related; the third is the center of the black community. Most of the churches are entering the area of social services and some even sponsor day care centers, crisis intervention, and counseling. Another reminder of our religious heritage is the Moravian Community, Old Salem, with its authentic reconstruction of buildings that attract tourists and school children by the thousands annually.

We have grown to 132,000 and our society is more mobile than ever, but this has only added a new dimension to our city. The shaft of the Reynolds Building is still the heart of our city and a reminder that the pioneer spirit, dedication, and concern for others that was Winston-Salem in the Twenties is still Winston-Salem today.

Mary Joe Hanes



Sosnik's salutes
The Junior League



A razzmatazz group
of self-starters!

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Prologue

1923

It was a comfortable year in which to live, that year of 1923. The younger generation was giving its parents the scare of their lives, and having a wonderful time doing it. Mah jongg was more important than the antics of an Italian named Mussolini who was just coming into power. There had been a little depression two years back, but that was all over now, and America was happy with handsome Mr. Harding in the White House and the flower-strewn years of the Twenties to look forward to. You had to do something for your church and your town, of course, but poverty was rapidly being abolished and there were much more interesting topics than welfare, such as the proper way to shingle hair and the profile of Dick Barthelmess in *Smilin' Through*.

So it is to the credit of forty young women in Winston-Salem that they left their mah jongg and drove out on January 13, 1923, to a charity meeting. Up the long sweep of road into Reynolda they chugged, to park in front of the rambling house that the Reynolds christened "the Bungalow." They trooped into the two-story living room in which they had so often had Saturday night parties, and listened with becoming seriousness to a speech.

Reynolda's Mrs. J.E. Johnston, who had been Mrs. R.J. Reynolds, had an idea for using these forty girls. Among the agencies she headed was one called the Juvenile Relief Association, which maintained a home for orphaned babies. And it had occurred to her that the younger element in Winston-Salem, which had kept itself busy doing nothing at all, might well begin to shoulder some responsibility as a junior auxiliary for the Juvenile Relief.

The forty girls — Hanes and Chathams and Norfleets and most of the names that stood for prestige in the town — were impressed. They would do, they said, anything that they could.

Two weeks later they met again and were told, rather anti-climactically, that they couldn't do anything. The Juvenile Relief charter didn't allow an auxiliary to be formed. But, said Mrs. Bess Gray Plumly who was presiding, why not organize under another name? Miss Marion Blair, of Salem College, had a still better idea. Why not, she said, apply for membership in this promising national organization they called the Junior Leagues?



Katharine Reynolds Johnston

No sooner said than done. With a rapidity that should bring tears to the eyes of newer Leagues, Knoxville proposed Winston-Salem. Atlanta seconded them — and on March 23, 1923, they were in.

In what? Nobody seemed to know. All the forty knew was that they should start Doing Good somehow.

— "Cavalcade"



Paper Day, May 15, 1928. Leaguers published and sold the *Sentinel* to raise money for the Hospital. Front row left to right: Lib Long, Lucy Chatham, Elizabeth Miller, Martha Long, Edna Sprunt, Molly Hanes, Billy Sprunt. Middle row: Pansy Pollard, Snow Smith, Elizabeth Williamson, Gertrude Eller, Margaret Miles, Dodge Magette, Mrs. Robert Woods. Back row: Lucia Weaver, Evelyn Marler, Margaret McCuiston, Mildred Hanes, Sadie Conrad, Doug Vaughn, Jane Ferrell, Kate Dalton, Annette Chance.



More "newsies". Front row left to right: Amelia O'Hanlon, Jo Turnbull, Pet Nash, Virginia Pollard, Geraldine Pratt, Mary Shepherd, Margaret Coyner, Virginia Horton, Louise Vogler. Back rows: Rowena Roberts, Lois Efird, Lib Heekin, Sadie Conrad, Lib Fenwick, Aurelia Spaugh, Nan Early, Fay Ives, Anna Brown, Dewitt Hanes, Elizabeth Ogburn, Maggie Mae Stockton, Frances Horton, unidentified, Emily Davis.



1923 ~ 1933



The Gift Shop. Ellen Shepherd, May Mountcastle and Nita Montague.



Patients at our Hospital for Incurables.



The Beauty Shop. Fay Huntley (Ives) receives a manicure. Seated at the desk is Miss McPhail.

Whirlwind of Activity

In a whirlwind of Little Women activity, we asked advice from everyone, and took it. We took Methodist Orphanage children and old ladies from the Salem Home driving in our snub-nosed cars. We cooked meals and served them at cost to working girls at the Y. We gave some cash to the *Sentinel* Milk and Ice Fund and brought furniture for the Juvenile Relief Building.

Only one symptom did our League show from the start: a business ability that we must have inherited from our fathers or acquired from our husbands. We cleared \$800 from our first dance held on the Robert E. Lee roof, smartly decorated in rambler roses and the brick floor well rubbed with cornmeal. And we gave a bazaar, making most of the things ourselves.

As our first infant project with Lucy Chatham as President, we hired and paid for a visiting housekeeper for the Associated Charities. Miss Isabel McPhail was driven around by the League members to poverty-stricken homes. There she bathed children, demonstrated efficient house-cleaning, investigated illnesses, and even took the housewife to market to show her how to buy economically. During the next four years she made over 10,000 calls.

Our second project was an infant one in every sense. In 1924 with Nita Montague as President, the League sponsored a prenatal clinic, the only one of its kind at that time in North Carolina. We were lucky enough to have a first-rate doctor and sensible enough to do a great deal of the work ourselves. Maggie Mae Stockton and Rosalie Wilson recall that we not only took case histories and made baby clothes but gave lessons in personal hygiene and even did analyses.

But except for these projects our League, like most Leagues in the mid-Twenties, was still working with the

warm feeling and impromptu kindness of a woman handing out quarters to beggars on the street. The minutes of the early meetings are full of notations of such items as \$25 for Ed Marshall's wooden leg and \$5 a week to help with an unfortunate baby.

Above all, those early records are full of discussions of money and money-raising. We had already raised large incidental sums (such as the \$4,000 we cleared by sponsoring the appearance of Will Rogers) but more and more we felt the need of a continuous income. In the fall of 1925, we opened a Gift Shop as a permanent successor to our earlier bazaars. We visited New York incessantly anyway, so we did our own buying with an unerring knowledge of what the shop could sell. With loving hands, we decorated a large room in red, divided it with screens made from the wings of a husband's airplane, wore red smocks when working as salesgirls, and, in short, ran the shop with all-volunteers.

In 1926 Coolidge Prosperity lay like warm sunshine on the land. There was a chicken in every pot and a car in every garage. Dinner parties talked not about economics and international politics but about the death of Valentino. Virginia Horton's committee staged a gala Christmas banquet which began with the singing of Junior League songs and went on to an exhibition Charleston. The League embarked on two new courses that were to have far-reaching effects: we began to educate the provisionals and to attend national conferences. May Mountcastle, our President from 1925-27, was our first delegate.

In 1928 Lib Long became President of the League, and Miss McPhail gave up her visiting work to take full charge of the shop. When the local Harper method beauty parlor came on the market, we borrowed \$2,000 from our Gift Shop and opened a Beauty Shop, where for years Junior League gossip resounded above the roar of the driers. Though the Beauty Shop offered no scope to volunteers, it proved such a financial success that the League felt it had definite merit. During the Depression, it held up better than any other money-raising activity.

When Gift Shop profits dropped in 1932 (Molly Hanes was President then) we started a new activity, the Thrift Shop. Silk stockings (one run, a nickle; two runs, two pairs for a nickle) sold like wildfire. Each spring the Shop gave a Rag Tea in some particularly beautiful garden and members arrived with large bundles under their arms and dressed in their own best rummage, whether it was a 1910 bathing suit or the knee-length sequins of 1926.

Two much more important activities began in the late Twenties: the first step into Arts and Interests and the first big League project. It was in 1928 that we first encountered Arts and Interests. We had heard dimly that some such subject was being discussed, but no one seemed to know exactly what it meant; so we sent delegates to the regional conference at Knoxville to find out.

The Knoxville delegates came back to report Arts and Interests meant simply that all up-and-coming Leagues



The League's first Girl Scout leaders: Effie Hodgins, Nancy Cochran, Miriam Hoyt, Mary Shepherd, Alice Gold, Elizabeth Plumly, Lois Efrid.

were now putting on children's plays. Would Winston-Salem lag behind? Certainly not. With great enthusiasm and inexperience, Miriam Eford (Hoyt) and her Arts and Interests Committee put on *When Toys Talk* in the State Theatre. We rehearsed before Clara Bow started flickering across the screen at 11:00 a.m. and after she had retired for the night at 11:30 p.m.

After those first timid 1928 steps, our Play Group plunged into *Alice in Wonderland*. The next spring we gave *Little Black Sambo* at a local grammar school, the first step toward reaching the groups that most needed us. By the fall of 1931, we put on a performance of *Aladdin* in which we played all over the theatre and so thrilled the audience that small boys hissed the villain (Blitz Dillard).

Next we tackled *Peter Pan*, which had never before been done by amateurs. Our homemade harness stuck at one classic performance in which Peter (Virginia Irvin) was forced to call, "I'll meet you there later" to a rapidly disappearing Wendy (Virginia Rice). The successful play was repeated at Roanoke amid such excitement as Mary Spaugh's getting a bump on her head in a minor car accident on the way; Lilly Cromer's trying to go down her tree head first; and Lib Magie's and Miriam's getting locked in the theatre by irate union carpenters. The next year we took *Secret Garden* to Charlotte amid equal crises.

But what seemed the biggest event in our young League's history so far took place in 1929. For several years we had been struggling with two major problems. One was that our community, like most communities, thought of us as a group of charming, irresponsible young things playing at good works. Our second problem was that the League, more than a hundred strong now, needed some big joint effort to pull us into one coordinated group. In January 1927, we voted to investigate the local needs and start a big project of our own.

Four months later, dark, vivacious Miss Alice Gray stood before the regular monthly meeting of the League with Fay Huntley Spencer (Ives) presiding and told us that there was one crying local need that she, as commander of the Legion Post, had seen. That need was a Hospital for Incurables. There was no nearby, good veterans' hospital. By starting the hospital, the League could not only help individuals but allow whole families to go off the relief rolls by removing a family burden that was keeping many a wage-earner at home.

The League was tremendously interested but proceeded with caution. A special committee talked to a number of businessmen, doctors, and ministers. May Mountcastle, who was to be the guiding spirit in the hospital work, went to Richmond to see the Hospital for Incurables there. Finally, the Duke Foundation indicated that the League could count on it for financial assistance once the project was really under way.

On June 14, 1927, the League voted to build and operate a Hospital for Incurables. In less than two weeks we raised \$60,000 for the building. In 1929 the Hospital



Alice in Wonderland. Front row: Mary Spaugh, Virginia Irvin, Blitz Reynolds. Back rows: Lib Heekin, Pet Nash, Nancy Martin, Elsie Rice.

opened under the guidance of a special committee and an advisory board from the community. It had private rooms for seventeen charity patients.

From the beginning the Hospital had at least one of the effects the founders had intended. It bound the League together in a new way. Kate Dalton, Snow Hendron (Smith), Edith Vogler, Doug Vaughn, Louise Vogler, Lois Eford, and Stuart Spicer were among the many Leaguers who were busy at the Hospital.

On March 23, 1931, Regional Director Mrs. John Pratt of New Orleans came to stay with President Elsie Hines Norfleet (Siewers). As our first visitor from AJLA, she could hardly have caused more excitement if she had been from Mars. She left trailing clouds of southern charm and good advice. From then on, we became more and more nationally minded. President Dewitt Hanes had started the *Newssheet* in 1929 as *Pandora's Box* with Dell Norfleet as editor and Dodge Magette as business manager; it took first prize in its class at the 1931 conference. In 1932 Blitz Dillard (Reynolds), Molly Hanes, and Lucy Chatham were appointed to AJLA committees.

But more important for the future, the Thirties brought us a new and deepening interest in our own city. The Arts and Interests committee divided itself like an amoeba into a Children's Play Group, which put on bigger and better plays, and a purely artistic group which sponsored an excellent show of modern French paintings in the spring of 1931. We began to help with the Community Chest Drive, helped organize the Civic Music Association, gave up our annual banquet to send the money to the Associated Charities, and collected for the Penny-a-Day Club for direct relief. And our main project, the Hospital, thrived with the rest.

The year 1933 found us beginning to realize that our League was not only a power in itself, as we had found in starting our Hospital, but a power in the community as well: a living part of Winston-Salem.

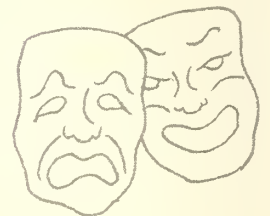
— condensed from "Cavalcade"



Posing in the "Hattie Butner" are Elsie Siewers, Mary Spaugh, and Jane Craige, part of a League committee working at the Wachovia Museum.



The Hospital board. Front row: Miriam Hoyt, Hazel Thomas, Nell Rousseau, May Mountcastle, Mrs. S. Clay Williams, Sid Snyder, Mrs. Bess Gray Plumly, Louisa Crawford. Back row: Kathleen Spencer, Sadie Conrad, Missie Hill, Jane Ferrell, Frances Lunn, Edna Sprunt, Eleanor Guthrie.



1933 ~ 1943



Provisionals attending a lecture by Miss Elsie Larson (with book in her hand). To her left are Rosemary Horne, Beth Whitaker, Cornelia Maslin, Suzanne Weeks, Reby Randolph, Vernie Covington, Hazel Bolich, Mae Mann.



Play Group Trouping: Virginia Pollard, Margaret McCuiston, Virginia Rice, Mary Louise Shepherd, Pet Nash, Virginia Irvin, Lilly Bergman, Hannah Williams.



Lib Magie redecorating the Hospital for use as a Child Guidance Clinic.

The Best of Times, The Worst of Times

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times" — so Dickens wrote of another era. It was equally true of this decade, for us living in Winston-Salem and across the nation.

In 1933 "Black Friday" was three years and more behind us, but the mood of the country was one of despond. Everyone had less money. The unemployed numbered thirteen million. Banks were failing, closing their doors right up to the gray day of Roosevelt's inauguration in March, 1933. Many Americans caught hope from his "fireside chats," though the conservative-minded viewed dubiously the legislation of the first hundred days; the three-letter governmental agencies, quickly spawned, were to stay with us until Pearl Harbor.

Everybody pared down their scale of living and the League amended its by-laws to read: "The only acceptable excuse for non-payment of dues (\$8.00 a year) is financial disability." Only the treasurer knew how many availed themselves of this grant-in-aid.

Nancy Martin was President of the League in 1933. We had 134 members and some said we were growing too fast for the size of our town. Our total membership had been augmented by only ten newcomers (no ties by blood or marriage to local families) and only two transfers, Martha Deuschle and Lucie Walker, in ten years. (We were very cautious about transfers; our by-laws provided that transfers would be accepted for one year as guest members, with no vote, but a rummage quota and after a year "passed upon by the Board.")

By 1943 Winston-Salem gentlemen were sometimes finding their brides far from Cherry and Spruce and the West-End. Business and industry were expanding here; in fact mobility had struck the nation. More and more

names lengthened our roster who were not "hometown" girls. Mobility also worked against us, for in 1943 we had lost some of "the brightest and the best" of us to other localities. A milestone was passed in 1938 when Blevins Vogler (Baldwin) came in as our first daughter.

The Children's Theater Group during this decade seemed to have and to give the most fun. After *Peter Pan* nothing seemed too difficult. In May 1935 *The Garden Circus* became the first play to be trouped to the schools. It was also presented by our Play Group in Baltimore upon invitation of AJLA's Children's Theater Conference.

Prince Humpty Dumpty, written by Margaret Blair McCuiston in 1936, was "the most artistic production the Play Group has ever given." Reynolds Auditorium was filled to capacity, 1000 free tickets were given away to underprivileged children, and for the first time large buses were chartered to transport children free from the most distant city schools.

From 1935 on the Play Group usually trouped to the schools in the fall and gave one big production at Reynolds Auditorium in the spring. About 25 League volunteers stuck with the Play Group during those ten years. Friendships grew closer as confidence increased in their ability to produce more exacting plays artistically.

The children who were their audiences were from the areas where a high majority of the families were "ill-fed, ill-housed, and ill-clothed, and had not even the dubious blessings of radio and the movies." In 1940 Virginia Rice wrote: "There is no finer piece of work being done in the Junior League than that being done by Children's Theater and we are getting better . . . In this of all times, we must see that our youth have a balanced childhood, both emotionally and mentally. We will continue to do our part by bringing laughter and beauty into the lives of the children of this community."

Later that year the League Play Group was instrumental in the formation of the Children's Theater Board, a city-wide group. Three of our members, Aurelia Plumly (Spaugh), Lilly Bergman and Virginia Rice were members of the new board.

Similar in many ways to the Play Group was the Scribblers Club organized by Reby Nissen Randolph, editor of *The Junior League News*. *The News*, new in format and new in purpose, had succeeded *Pandora's Box* by 1933. To join a few legacies from *Pandora's Box*, as were Tippy Ruffin and me, she recruited a small group as new provisionals came in — Eleanor Johnson, Virginia Pleasants, Ruth Lemly, Doris Wilkinson, Anna Shaffner,



The Scribblers Club: Elizabeth Graham, Anna Shaffner, Mary Creech, Eleanor Johnson, Virginia Shaffner, Mary Belo Carlyle.



Claire Follin making decorations for the Christmas Dance.



Louise Creech and Martha Galloway modelling for a fashion show.



Aurelia Spough and Doris Wilkinson leaving for Conference.

Cortlandt Creech, Mary Catherine Mauzy, Louise Beard, Mary Garber, Libby Holder and others. We went to school under the tutelage of a critic, League member Elizabeth Lilly of Salem College. Our purpose was clear — to write like Walter Lippman or E.B. White in *The New Yorker*, to improve our style, to avoid dangling participles and split infinitives. Like the Play Group we strove for professional excellence as we submitted our work to the *Newsheet* and the *Junior League Magazine*. Again like the Play Group we had fun enjoying the exchange of ideas and the joy of friendships that grew warmer within the group over the years.

Our shops were remarkably successful right through the depression, and we found that many people depended on our Thrift Shop to keep their families clothed. The Shop had two League professional managers in succession, Edna Siewers and Ruth Lemly. In 1940, we held our first Fashion Show with the public invited, the price of admission being a box of rummage. That year we also pled for "Bundles for Britain," a foreboding note for we had been shaken by the tragic Dunkirk landing.

Among short term money-raisers, we had an exhibition golf match with the phenomenal golfer of that day, Bobby Jones. We also modelled for fashion shows for both Montaldo's and Sosnik's, sometimes as many as five times in one year. Until 1938, we had a Christmas dance which evoked a generous outpouring of checks from "Junior League members and their friends" in addition to legitimate sales of tickets. We gave up the dance in 1939-40, substituting a series of New York plays with New York casts.

Our ability to raise money astonished us. We did it successfully and we thought with dignity. Like most other Leagues, we saved all we could, and one of our steady sources of income was "Interest."

When AJLA analyzed the Leagues in the late Thirties, disquieting questions were raised: Could our potential strength be better directed away from endless ticket-selling, decorating for balls, shop-keeping? Ought not

every League have a community trust fund and an administrative fund? Should Leagues continue to add to invested surplus?

This brought a cleavage of opinion in the League here, as everywhere, but a historic change in direction was a-borning. Mrs. Robert Dingman, AJLA Consultant on Finance, had come in 1940 when Eleanor Johnson was President, had been charming and persuasive, even gently compelling, and had left, setting us in a new mold. Also, she had left us to ponder anew the concept of successive "demonstration projects."

The Hospital for Incurables had been envisioned as a time-without-end philanthropy, but in 1934 the Duke Endowment had given us notice that, in curtailing their program, our Hospital would no longer receive assistance because patients were "too few to warrant such a large expenditure." In 1935 when Edna Sprunt was President we operated the Hospital alone; the next year was sadly the last.

In the spring of 1936 we had decided to employ a professional social case worker, Miss Mary Frances Shelburne, as the League's placement secretary. Hopefully we expected her to find us a greater variety of challenging volunteer jobs, with training, and suited to each individual's talents. This, of course, was the ideal of the placement system, then only dimly understood even by League members — the old hour, work card system was deeply ingrained.

The opening of the beautiful new Forsyth County Home in 1937 was the argument that had persuaded most Leaguers that the Hospital should close. We voted funds for occupational therapy there and continued to visit the patients. Meanwhile we were thinking of a new League project and a use for our empty Hospital building.

The impetus for action on both counts came when Miriam Hoyt was President. Miss Elsie Larsen, touring on a Rockefeller grant, spoke to the League about the crying need for local Mental Hygiene Societies and Child Guidance Clinics. We took up the challenge: civic



Blitz Reynolds, Dewitt Hanes, and Virginia Rice at the Reynolds place at Sapelo.

club and professional group engagements for Miss Larsen's exposition were rapidly arranged, and a local Society was soon formed. A request was made to the League to start the Winston-Salem Child Guidance Clinic. The League, not surprised, voted to do so — for a demonstration of five years. The Clinic began in 1937, where else? — in the building of the Hospital for Incurables; Elizabeth Graham was chairman of our first demonstration project. We also engaged Miss Larsen as our placement secretary, Miss Shelburne having resigned.

In June 1940 the League voted to operate the Clinic in conjunction with the new Bowman Gray School of Medicine, with the Medical School using our Hospital building and the Clinic moving to Lockland Avenue. League volunteers, Lib McCorkle, Vernie Covington, Emmy Brawley, Louisa Crawford, Martha Galloway, and the Womble sisters, Lila and Olivia, among others, made the new location more attractive.

We were happy about our project.

We were not happy about the war, and the portent of our country's involvement hung heavy over us. Many of our friends and members of our families were volunteering for military service or were being drafted.

Then, on that quiet Sunday afternoon as most of us were wrapping Christmas presents while we listened to our radios, came the fateful words "This program is being interrupted — please stand by — Pearl Harbor!"

What did this mean to the League, to us who were its members?

We had just given \$500 to set up a Central Volunteer Office in the community. Now it was the CDVO, Civilian Defense Volunteer Office. Miss Larsen had left as our paid placement secretary. We began to go to the Red Cross and the CDVO for volunteer assignments.

Husbands were leaving every day for the Army or the Navy. In the early fall of 1942, our own past-President Aurelia Plumly (Spaugh) was the first woman in Forsyth County to volunteer for the newly-created Waves. Rationing came, gas for our cars was strictly limited, and the

Children's Play Group announced they had no plans for the next year. We came to League meetings on buses.

The Red Cross recruited Nurses Aids for service in our hospitals. Five Junior League members graduated in the first class. Claire Follin was chairman of the Red Cross Work Room where bandages were rolled on counters set up in the old West End School building. The Red Cross Motor Corps had as its chairman Katy Norfleet and other Junior League members learned how to change a tire.

Inflation was rampant with high wages being paid to defense workers, and a "don't spend — save — buy War Bonds and Stamps" drive enlisted the services of scores of League volunteers. The Stamp Center, directed by Mary Archer Morris, was open down town to sell bonds from a booth on the sidewalk. Suddenly most of us had no domestic help. League meetings were held at night, no more fines for absence.

The Clinic's director resigned to go to the Army. Our carefully nurtured five-year demonstration project folded in December, 1942, with scarcely a ripple — a war casualty, even as our Hospital had been in large part a Depression casualty. With money left in the budget we were inspired to defy tradition, and we gave away \$9,000 (to the Family Service Agency, the library, and the Red Cross Roll Call) on a motion to do so at a single meeting.

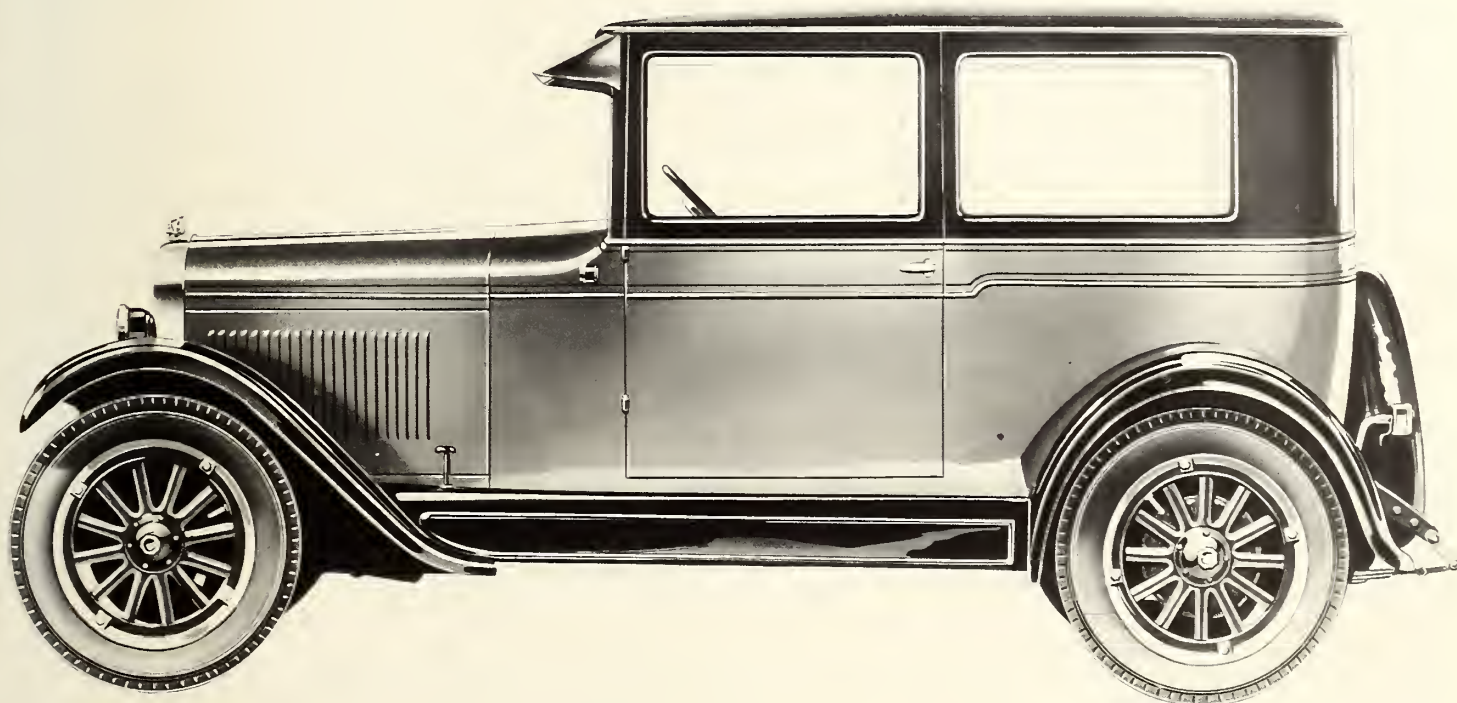
President Mary Lou Rice and I went to the national conference in Kansas City in the spring of 1942 and basked in reflected glory when Nancy Martin, our own, took the gavel as AJLA President!

Though the war was not over — far from it for the invasion of Germany had not begun — AJLA under Nancy's leadership projected plans for the League in a country at peace. Here in Winston-Salem, League members were thinking hard about this beautiful new world which might rise, Phoenix-like, from the ashes of this titanic holocaust of war.



Executive Committee, 1942-43. Seated: Mary Louise Lowe, Mary Lou Rice, Mary Belo Carlyle, Susan Walker. Standing: Elizabeth McCorkle, Libby Gray, Marguerite Gorrell.

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1943 ~ 1953



Another *Alice in Wonderland*: Louise Creech, Blitz Reynolds, Sterling Wylie.



Jack and the Beanstalk: Jane Gray, Spotty Coan, Helen Bryant, and Elizabeth Trotman.



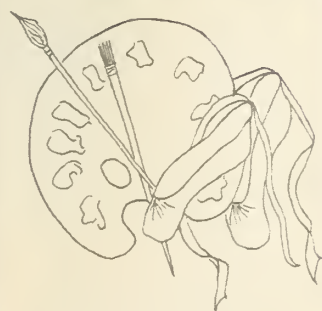
Virginia Rice and Spotty Coan broadcasting in 1946.



Arts and Crafts volunteers Mary Louise Lowe and Debbie Sartin entertaining children in the hospital.



Dot Morehead, Anne Strickland and Ruth Pleasants preparing for "Storytime."



J.L. News and World Report

On April 30, 1945, Corty (Boss) celebrated her sixth birthday, including in her party guests Pud Davis, her kindergarten teacher. In Berchtesgarden, Hitler committed suicide. This contrast of light against shadow formed a dramatic backdrop for the activities of the Junior League's third decade.

When I glanced in my rear-view mirror at the '43-'53 decade. I almost wrecked my wagon! Memory couldn't sum up what the Junior League was doing in those years. It required eight fat scrapbooks, ten factual yearbooks, two faded family albums and Compton's Encyclopedia, Volumn "W" (for War).

Before I began writing I had to recreate my thirty-year-old mental attitude (bad news) and study the world situation (worse) to discover that the only party who was conducting her affairs in a normal pattern was the League.

Most of you 188 actives are too young to remember 1943. The great names in the news were Eisenhower, McArthur, Patton, Mark Clark, Mary Belo Carlyle and Virginia Lee Comer. The gentlemen were Commander-in-Chiefting the Allied Armies in Europe, pounding the Japanese in the Pacific, chasing Germans out of North Africa and Italians out of Italy, in that order. Belo was President of the twenty-year-old Junior League of Winston-Salem, which numbered 108 active and 61 sustaining members. Miss Comer, of California, Yale University and AJLA, came to survey our cultural facilities and to advise us in the fields of theater, radio and art. According to Anne Strickland, she told us: "You all ain't got no culture." We promptly dropped our Big Businesses and went into Culture with a VAROOM!

Stop the world and concentrate on the League. Use your imagination and poetic license. If facts get lost in the following simile, ignore them, as I find it difficult to be clever and correct in the same article.

MS. W.S. LEAGUE

An attractive matron, Ms. W.S. League, was struggling with four large children. Three lived downtown: a Gift Shop, in the Robert E. Lee Hotel Building, a Beauty Parlor, ditto, and a Thrift Shop on N. Main, across from the Reynolds Building. The Hospital for Incurables, which had caused considerable labor pains to build, was located near the eastern edge of the city (now across I-40 from the Bahnson Plant).

Managing four kids was too much, so Ms. League decided to sell the Gift Shop to Isabel McPhail ('43), close the Beauty Parlor ('45) and deed the Hospital building to the Winston-Salem Foundation ('46). She

kept only one of her brood, the Thrift Shop, to support her. A neat trick for a mother to do!

Ms. League continued to "play" with the neighborhood Children's Theater Board, and to help with the Piedmont Festival, which she'd been doing for several years. She held meetings, disciplined and educated herself and grew in "wisdom and stature."

In that same period I had two little ones, produced two more and kept all four. Limiting families wasn't in style in those days. This may explain in part my unnatural attitude toward League volunteer work. As I recall, I did the absolute minimum. But then, I was something of an "inverted snob," an idealistic democrat, and probably would have voted for McGovern.

OUT-OF-BUSINESS

Having gone out of business, except for her money making Thrift Shop, Ms. League contributed from her surplus funds and Reynolds stock to such community projects as the City-County Hospital, War Memorial Building (Coliseum) Fund, Mental Hygiene Society, City Library, Piedmont Festival and Wachovia Historical Society, and she immediately had more offspring. Two of them she named Radio Plan and Arts and Crafts; they were charming, talented, beautiful, public-spirited children.

She opened the musty Wachovia Museum three days a week and told fairy stories there and in the old Library on Cherry Street. By radio, newspaper and magazine she advertised her family from coast to coast, so that they became famous.

THE "RADIO KID"

On January 20, '43, Ms. League had a dream — to establish a Radio Council. She met with representatives of all community groups interested in radio. By '44, with Lizzie Trotman as chairman, her dream had materialized. She gave \$2,000 to the new Council which hired Charlotte Demorist as Consultant. Many girls worked with her, Ikey Bean, Diana Wilson, Helen Bryant, Katy Bahnson (deBraganza), Libby Holder, Polly Blackwell, Mildred Cayer, Hannah Williams, to name a few. That year the series, "Here's to Youth," was broadcast nationally from WSJS.

Next came "Books Bring Adventure," beamed into the



Cortlandt Creech with her brood in 1949: Corty (Boss), Juliana (Williamson), John Creech, Jr., and Katherine.



Margaret Sandresky



Beth Whitaker

schools. And in rapid succession, "Saturday Playhouse," "Musical Notes," Nell Glenn's lyric writing contest, "Tips for Teenagers," and finally "Storytime," transcribed as a salable series. Hannah took over as Executive Secretary for the Council in '44.

Lots of script writing and vocal talent were provided by Margaret Vardell (Sandresky), Pinky Perry, Kaka Leinbach, Edna Sprunt Petty, Ruth Lemly, and Sally Munden. By the end of our era, League money was no longer needed because the Radio Council had grown up and left the nest.

ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOP

Another League baby, the Arts and Crafts Association also had a fascinating childhood.

Who, besides me, thought Chester Marsh's face was the most interesting, strongest assemblage of features she'd ever seen? Martha Sturmer, you and Fred surely did. Anna Shaffner, Al Lassiter, Virginia Pollard, Sophie Cody, Sid Snyder, Dewitt Hanes, Sue Moore, you remember Chester.

Like Moses, Chester led us from old West End School Building Headquarters to a restored garret over Kress on N. Main, and from there to the Trotman family homestead on W. Fifth to be called The Arts Center. As Director of the Arts and Crafts Workshop, she made us want to varnish floors, cover cracks in walls with posters and teach classes in crafts we'd barely mastered ourselves. She brought out the Bohemian, Left-Bank characteristics in otherwise conventional League members. We loved her!

Ms. League paid Chester's salary for seven years. She retired in '53. The Workshop was given a Board of

Directors, named an Association and turned over to the community, with Gordon Hanes, President, and Elizabeth Vogler, Vice President. Another healthy child adopted.

While this was going on, Mao-Tse-tung allied China with Red Russia. In '48, Britain gave up her colonial power in India, the United Nations formed a controversial new state of Israel, and Ms. League sponsored a concert by the Winston-Salem Civic Orchestra (now the Symphony). I had my fourth baby, and Ms. League birthed another child too.

ARTS COUNCIL

Betty Butler was President when Ms. League became "Founding Mother" of the Arts Council. Grouping eleven cultural facilities under one constitution and one budget was a novel experiment.

It had all started with Miss Comer's visit in 1943. In Mary Belo's words, "We took her first to see Mr. Thomas Carroll, secretary of the Community Council. He suggested, 'Why not have a consolidated group for the arts like the Community Council is for all the welfare agencies? Why don't you form an Arts Council?' And so we did, the first we are told in America. I think Miss Comer carried the idea across the land, from League city to League city."

Ruth Pleasants encouraged Ms. League to turn over a promised \$7,000 to the Arts Council in '50. Gertrude Elliott was hired as Executive Secretary, and Paul Kolb was elected President, followed by May Mountcastle. The push came in '51 to raise supporting funds from the community. The first Arts Follies (May '52) was an answer.

ARTS FOLLIES

Jimmy Dyas of Cargill came from New York to produce the Follies. Beth Whitaker, President of the League, was overall Co-Chairman. John Creech was Talent Chairman, never dreaming he might be helping a



Nancy Martin, Sara Donovan, Libby Gray.



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League oriented program. He imagined he was working for Bungy Valk, Benny Bahnson, Betsy Hobby Glenn or some of the other lovelies involved. Everybody had fun. The curtain was raised and so was the money. These arty orphans found a home: the Symphony, Little Theater, Arts and Crafts Association, Winston-Salem Operetta, Civic Music, Civic Oratorio Society, Piedmont Festival, Maids of Melody, and Children's Theater Board. The Junior Woman's Club and the League were also members.

That same year rebel forces attacked a French supported state in Indo China, called Vietnam. Did anyone know where it was in 1952?

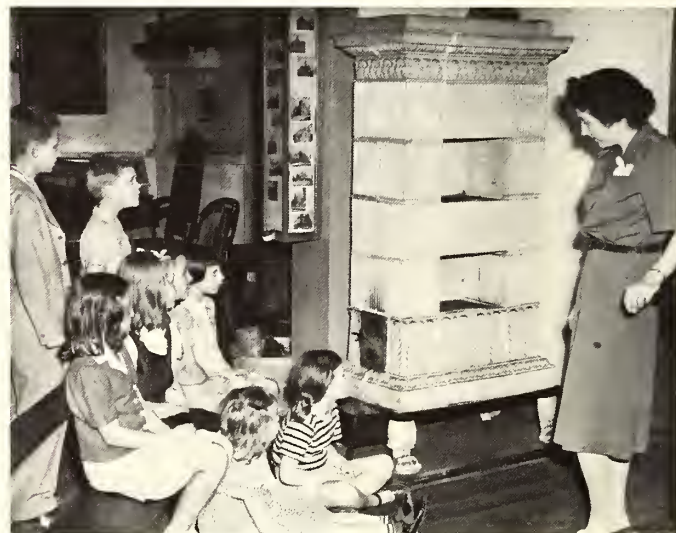
LEADERS AND FOLLOWERS

In combing through yearbooks, names kept repeating themselves. Many served in all capacities before becoming League Presidents. These should be listed for the record: Mrs. Irving Carlyle (1943-44), Mrs. George Walker (1944-45), Mrs. Tom Moore (1945-46), Mrs. Bowman Gray (1946-47), Mrs. Bob Lawson (1947-49), Mrs. Albert Butler, Jr. (1949-50), Mrs. Clifton Pleasants (1950-51), Mrs. John Whitaker (1951-52), Mrs. Frank Borden Hanes (1952-53).

Numerous unsung heroines, who are now "grannies" or retired from important jobs, helped keep the show on the road too.

CHILDREN'S THEATER

If you acted in plays named *Titian*, *Aladdin*, *Peter Pan*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Indian Captive*, *Cinderella*, *The Magic Horn*, *Tom Sawyer*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Alice in Wonderland* and haven't seen your name mentioned, don't pout. Pet, Spotty, Copey, Louise Creech, Sterling, Dodge, Lilly Bergman, Grace Coan, Babe, Benny, Bob-Ed were all legends of the stage. Behind them, Grace Harrill, Lois Dehart, Neely Garber, Tippy Ruffin, Mary Babcock, Ann Vance, Marty Hancock and others were sawing scenery, gilding crowns, and handing out props.



"Storyhour" at the Wachovia Museum. Seated on floor: Nancy Jones, Kate Sandridge. Seated on bench: Jean Krouse, Jeannia Clark, Janice, Ross Johnson. Standing: Bruce Brooks, Dickie Spough.

Gas rationing in '43 kept the Play Group at home with *Rackety Packety House* at Gray High School. Later we trouped plays out into the county schools. I remember wondering (from behind curtains) why county children in the new Mineral Springs auditorium seemed more receptive and better behaved than our own little Wileyites. (That's what "inverted snob" means.)

Meanwhile, back at the Thrift Shop, Margaret Trotter, Mary Lib Steele, Eleanor Reid, Elsie Orr & Co. were keeping accounts straight and net profits in the \$3,000 range. They discovered that "rummage" was tax deductible. They got up packages of "Clothes for Russia." They evolved a plan of *five hours for each active member per year in the Thrift Shop*.

Johnnie Dunn, Margaret Wade, Louisa Crawford, Dot



Junior League Conference at Salem College. Mayor George D. Lentz, Rosalie Moore (Rice), Mrs. Charles W. Tillett, and Margaret Coyner.

Merritt, and Mildred Marshall were perennial Perle Mestas of Hospitality. E. Sue Shore and Peg Pollard (Rea) wrote full page newspaper stories that outdid Chester Davis and Bonnie Angelo. Mary Liipfert and Claire Follin shepherded Provisionals; May Mountcastle was honored for community service; Mary Louise Davis sold books for Forsyth County's 1949 Centennial. Anne Strickland headed Admissions, Lyell Hanes looked for Projects, Doty Crump Nominated. Everybody worked! All those fresh, young faces, longish dresses, and matching hats!

Ten traumatic years! America and Allies finished both land and sea battles and defeated their Axis enemies. VE and VJ Days came only a month apart in the summer of '45. My husband and I took our four children downtown to blow horns and ring bells and thank God for Peace! Five years later, President Truman began sending soldiers into South Korea. A situation similar to Vietnam — frustration, bitterness, McArthur recalled to "fade away" — an uncertain Armistice arranged between the U.N. and Communists in '53. One hundred thousand Korean children orphaned.

What of the Junior League's Culture-Children, mentioned earlier? Imagine, in conclusion, a letter to them as follows:

Dear Arts and Crafts, Arts Council, Radio Council, etc.,

I don't send you allowances any more. But I still love you! I'm proud to watch you growing up and taking your places in Winston-Salem, just as I'd hoped and planned.

You may call on me for day help, baby sitting or advice anytime you need them. I'm not deserting you, just going into new fields to keep myself from growing old.

Fondly,

Your Mother, the Junior League



Lib Heefner and Betty Butler get ready for Conference.

The Ideal

Downtown
Winston-Salem

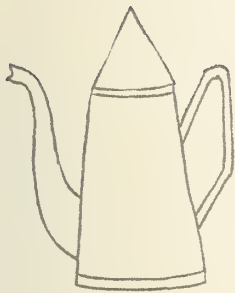


**1953 ~
1963**

Board meeting at Timothy Vogler. Vaughn Owen, E. Sue Shore, Anne Strickland, Dot Morehead, Dewitt Cordell, Bungy Valk, Lucy Wilson, Marty Hancock.



"The Flings": Eleanor Vance, Bob Ed Hanes, Emmy Lou Parrish.



Katherine Bahnson (deBraganza)



Margaret Wade and Alice Brown



Pam Burrell



Sleeping Beauty: Lou Bahnson, Liebe Blount, Spotty Simpson.

‘Everything’s Coming Up Roses’

“Full and satisfactory,” “stimulating,” “inspirational,” “successful,” “remarkable,” “amazing,” “challenging,” “determined,” “fast moving and exciting.” So the Presidents of the Junior League during its fourth decade described those years.

Those Presidents were Bob-Ed Hanes, Lib Heefner, Alice Brown, Katherine Bahnson (deBraganza), Betty Alexander, Lucy Wilson, Margaret Wade, Ann Strickland, and E. Sue Shore. They chose these superlatives after working with nearly 200 members during years which saw the sale of the Thrift Shop; the inauguration of the Rummage Sale; the establishment of the children’s programs at the Library; the preparation of ten plays for the Children’s Theater Board; and the support of the Children’s Center for the Handicapped. Those years also saw a growing interest in the field of art; hundreds of hours of recreational therapy with children in the hospitals; the organization of a Puppet Theater group and a club for handicapped adults; and the opening of our own Junior League Headquarters.

These were the years of first things and new things and change. The “new” City-County Library was opened. The first television stations opened in the city. Wake Forest College moved to its new campus; Junior League members were hostesses at the opening reception. Winston-Salem received its first award as an All-American City. The State Legislature, en masse, visited the city at the invitation of the Chamber of Commerce who asked Junior League members to ride up from Raleigh on buses and act as hostesses for the law makers. The Community Center opened its three part building with one part designated for use by the Arts Council.



E. Sue Shore at the 40th Anniversary Luncheon.

Katherine Bahnson (deBraganza) was elected by the Leagues of Region XIII to be their Regional Director on the Board of AJLA. The State Art Museum opened in Raleigh, affording many delightful bus tours to view the exhibits. The Children’s Center moved into a fine new headquarters on Coliseum Drive. The adjectives that the Presidents used to describe their days in office were indeed applicable to those innovative years in Winston-Salem.

To set the stage — in 1953 hats were IN, gloves were ON, and dresses were 12 inches from the floor. Membership meetings of the League were held in the auditorium of the YWCA and board meetings were held in its living room. The files were housed in attics, closets, under beds and in garages of members.



Jo Shipley working in the Hospital Therapy program.

As the city was bustling with new places and new things, so the Junior League was involved in some way with many of the changes. And all of those interests were supported by the one money-raising activity, the Thrift Shop. But not for long. In 1954 the Thrift Shop gave way to the first Rummage Sale, begun with a great deal of enthusiasm and research and hope. The chairmen, Emmie Lou Long and Pauline Robinson, worked with every member of the League and produced the new concept of thrift shopping in the Hull Dobbs Showroom on Liberty Street. The Sale opened with a gigantic crush of bodies that was to be the traditional scene during the ensuing years. One member was caught in a telephone booth for two hours, another on top of a table of merchandise where she had to spend the morning.

Not knowing exactly what to expect — but trying to be prepared for anything — the well organized committee



Follies' Patron Committee: Betty Alexander, Ann Strickland, Dot Morehead, Aurelia Eller, Copey Hanes.

solicited all manner of rummage, marked it in record time, taught totally unmechanically minded members how to operate cash registers and adding machines, and collected much valuable information such as how to cope with cold feet (wear stadium boots), husbands (bring them along to work), Fire Department officials (get them to help clean up the aisles), policemen (have them show you how to watch for shoplifters), the City Sanitation Department (they will close you up if you don't have a license to sell food), and irate customers (Johnny Glenn was the most irate when his best overcoat was marked "For Sale" and he had to buy it back at the insultingly low price of \$3.)

The success of the Sale spread through subsequent years when the mammoth undertaking was chaired by Eleanor Reid, Sue Simpson, Anne Strickland, Julia Lambeth, Katherine Cox, Betsy Sawyer and Adrian Shore. During these years proceeds from the Rummage Sale went to support the already mentioned variety of projects in the community which made use of so many League volunteers.

In 1954 a three year program for children was launched in the new City-County Library. It was designed to familiarize children with the Library and to offer an enriching experience as well. The program included story telling, movies, art exhibits and music.

The new Library building offered yet another opportunity in its handsome and well equipped Art Gallery. The Cultural Arts Committee seized this opportunity to bring to the city a series of exhibits of major importance from the Museum of Modern Art, the American Federation of Artists, and significant private collections. Copey Hanes, Martha Womble, Sue Moore, Ann Mercer Shields and Nancy Elberson were among those who were instrumental in planning these exciting exhibits.

Meanwhile the show went on — the Junior League Play was given annually at Reynolds Auditorium and

later at the Community Center under the auspices of the Children's Theater Board. The repertoire went like this: *The King's Balcony*, *The Camel with the Wrinkled Knees*, *Cinderella*, *Heidi*, *Red Shoes*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Pinocchio*, *Niccolo and Nicollette*, *Alice in Wonderland*. Hannah Williams was the regular director of the plays, and year after year the familiar faces appeared on stage and off to the delight of all concerned: Polly Blackwell, Elizabeth Trotman, Marge Froeber, Emmy Lou Parrish, Louise Bahnson, Marge Beardsley, Liebe Blount, Lou Bahnson, Kaka Leinbach, Ann Rush, Margaret Clay, Bungy Valk, Betsy Wilson . . . the list could go on for many pages. It is impossible to say who enjoyed the events the most — the actresses, make-up artists, set designers, costume ladies, children, or Fred Bahnson's farm animals, who often got into the act.

In 1955 a new project was passed unanimously: the League voted to give the salary for a primary education teacher for the Children's Center for the Handicapped where volunteers were already serving. This teacher was to prepare the children scholastically for entrance into



Red Shoes: Spotty Simpson and Elsie Orr.

the public schools when they became physically ready. The Children's Center Committee also organized a young adult program for the handicapped which they sponsored in co-operation with the City Recreation Department. It was called the Poke Easy Club and was enthusiastically supported by many members, including Marilyn Davis, Ruth Pepper, Ann Badgett, Betty Clauset and Lila Spencer. Later another teacher was provided for the kindergarten aged children in the Center, and volunteers continued their work there.

In 1958 the League was able to change its monthly meeting place to the newly constructed Community Center, the home of the Arts Council which Leaguers had so carefully developed, encouraged and supported. In its new home many other organizations, directly or indirectly supported by the League, were also to find a home.

CONGRATULATIONS JUNIOR LEAGUE ON YOUR 50th ANNIVERSARY!

. We are only 18, but during that time we have had the opportunity to become acquainted with and serve many of your members. Also, we have become aware of the many worthwhile projects and activities in which you are engaged. We marvel at the interest, the enthusiasm, the ability, and the determination of your members. These qualities enable them to successfully complete their projects and to enrich our community through their activities.

Congratulations! May you have many, many more anniversaries!

The Buena Vista
SHOP, INCORPORATED



Half the town's rummaging 'round!

At this time the League began an annual contribution of a purchase prize for a painting to be given to a city junior high school. This was continued until each school received a painting.

A hard working Project Finding Committee in 1959 presented a challenging idea to the League: the restoration of the Timothy Vogler House in Old Salem. The cost would be \$26,000. This was the largest commitment that had been undertaken to date since the Hospital for Incurables was built in the Twenties. Timothy Vogler would fill a variety of needs. It would be a great asset to the Old Salem Restoration; it would signify our support of a proj-



Jean Piner, Pat Vaughn, Betty Sohmer (Wilson), Suzanne Simpson (McCarthy), Dewitt Cordell, Eleanor Vance, Audrey Oliver, Billie

ect that already claimed the volunteer hours of many members; it would be available to us for our first Headquarters and the rent which we would pay would be a lasting contribution to Old Salem. We agreed to pay for the restoration in five years.

The debt we incurred gave the League a new feeling of urgency in 1960. In a burst of hard work and enthusiasm, the Rummage Sale that year netted over \$13,000, nearly half of our obligation to Old Salem.

By the following year the Ways and Means Committee suggested that we present a Follies to help raise additional money for the restoration. Under the direction of Johnnie Dunn, Catherine Montague and Bob-Ed Hanes, the Follies got under way. Husbands and wives went to work on program, costumes, scenery, and show. A whole generation of children grew up thinking that the opening number, "Everything's Coming Up Roses," was the theme song of the Junior League.

Everyone who was interested in the Hospital Therapy program, Adult Handicapped, Cultural Arts, Children's Theater, Children's Center and the restoration of the Timothy Vogler House worked hard. Those in the community who were interested in these projects and in others that the League had supported in the past helped in many ways to promote the Follies. The result was a profit of almost \$15,000 — and so the final payment was made to Old Salem three years ahead of schedule.

The charming house was beautifully furnished through the efforts of Dewitt Hanes, Jane Slick and Bungy Valk. The files came out from under the beds, from the closets, attics and garages. The Junior League had an office at last.

The women who had entered the decade in hats and gloves and skirts 12 inches from the floor finished the decade in can-can skirts, balloons and grease paint. Even if all the members might not agree with all the presidential adjectives and accolades, they would probably agree with one — the Junior League was certainly determined.



Goslen, Martha Field, Pat Michael, Alma Thompson, Nancy Pixley.

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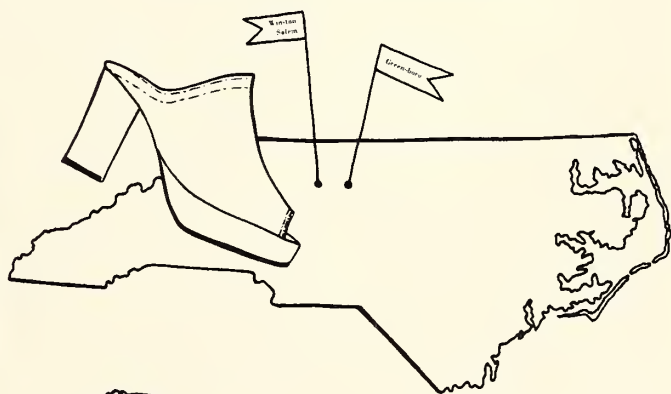
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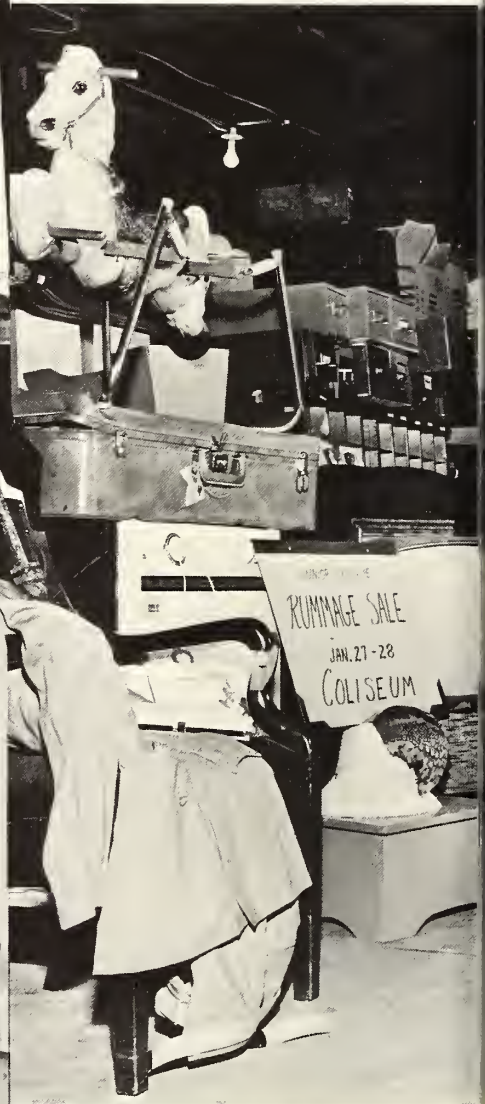


Rosenthal's
BOOTERY

FRIENDLY SHOPPING CENTER — GREENSBORO
THRUWAY SHOPPING CENTER —
WINSTON-SALEM



Gerri Spach, Mary Joe Hanes, and Rachel Wright trouping puppets.



The String-Alongs: Nancy Pixley, Betty Sohmer (Wilson), Pam Burrell, Teenie Paxton, Pat Vaughn, Anne Badgett, Algine Ogburn, Marty Hancock, Jeanne Wilson, Frances Vogler.



1963 ~ 1973



Peggy Guthrie and Dottie Crone at the Rummage Sale.



Tyl Eulenspiegel: Kent Graham, Amelie Owen, Frances Brenegar.



Painting crew at the Youth Opportunity Home: Mary Neil Rice, Janet Roberts, Mary Ellen Haley.

Growth and Change

In 1963-64 the Winston-Salem League began its fifth decade of existence. It was to be a decade of "firsts" and "biggests," a time of growth and change. The present *Handbook* supports the claim with the history of the years '63-'73 taking twice as much space as the other forty years together.

Handsome young JFK had won the White House and his Jackie made low heel shoes and pill box hats famous while her husband crusaded for Civil Rights. After the Presidential assassination in 1963, LBJ took over the Oval Office and we quickly changed our taste for French Champagne to Texas chili. Tremendous social strides were made at home, namely with the Black cause, while a war grew in Asia. Nixon in '73 announced peace in Vietnam and looked forward to the renewed promise of "an era of peace."

Our children concerned us during the decade. They grew long hair, talked about "Hippies," listened to the Beatles, pushed their dresses to the back of the closet in favor of well-worn bluejeans, volunteered in the Peace Corps and domestic projects, and received the vote at age 18.

If the country seemed young in '63 so did the League. Marty Hancock was on the way out of the Presidency and Dewitt Cordell was to take over the office; both leaders were only 33. In addition, Marty's greatest problem, that of getting her one year old secured so she could come to meetings, was shared by all our younger members in an era of fading domestic help.

Three other characteristics of our membership stand out during the decade. First, our members have become much more mobile. League daughters continue to be

taken in, but often they transfer within a year. Meanwhile, the number of transfers to Winston-Salem has markedly increased. Second, the number of professional members has increased noticeably. In 1963 there were 13 professional actives; in 1973 there are 40. Third, our membership has not grown markedly. In 1963 there were 165 actives; in 1973 there are 188. In addition, this small group gain is reflected in transfers because the average provisional class has remained at 27.

This decade saw the League's biggest project, the Nature Science Center with a total commitment of \$71,000 over eight years (1963-71), and the biggest money raiser in history, the Decorator's Show House raising \$28,000 the first year ('70) and \$33,000 the second ('72). We had



Betty Appel busy with the Day Care Project.



Nature-Science Center

our third member of the AJL (oops, it was still AJLA then) board, Dewitt Cordell, our Regional Director from 1965-67. Dewitt went on to serve as AJLA second Vice President ('67-'68). And we took our first public stands to support the Child Advocacy Commission in 1971 and then to endorse a Charlotte proposal for public kindergartens in 1973.

These highlights were only the frosting on the cake. Myriads of concerns, projects, and ideas composed the everyday business of the League. Nationally, AJLA became AJL and went from a structure of regions to areas. Locally we saw the apex, gradual decline, and finally the disappearance of beloved placements such as Children's Theater, puppets, fun books, and palettes. These groups were replaced by concern for, creation of, and/or work in the Nature Science Center; Youth Opportunity Home;



Great Books; Creative Dramatics; Child Guidance; Speech, Reading and Psychology; Child Development; Reynolda Docents; Volunteer Bureau; Drug Education; the Environmental Council; Public Schools; and Social Services Referral Directory. Several board re-structures helped things run more smoothly. There was much more emphasis on Community Research and Public Affairs. A tri-League meeting with Greensboro and High Point was held. Leaguers took more seats on community boards. There was emphasis on cooperation with Foundations and other agencies and investigation of federal, state, and local grantsmanship.

One of the remarkable things about this League in the last ten years is that all of our growing and changing has come about without a significantly larger membership. Possibly then, this lack of growth coupled with an amazing ten year record of accomplishments gives roots to one of the few complaints heard from the membership: "We're tired; we're doing too much."

However, surely the other most heard criticism, that of a lack of fun and humor, must be dispelled. In preparing this history, the past Presidents of the decade were polled, and an impressive group they are: Mrs. A. Robert Cordell (1963-64), Mrs. Charles F. Vance, Jr. (1964-65), Mrs. Robert Sartin (1965-67), Mrs. Clay Vance Ring, Jr. (1967-68), Mrs. Dalton D. Ruffin (1968-69), Mrs. William P. Hanes (1969-71), and Mrs. John D. Eller, Jr. (1971-72).



Nancy Neill



Sara Sue Ferrell

Their reminiscences included much humor, such as:

- the President who always presided in a wig.
- the President who forgot her gavel and had her maid drive it to the door of Forsyth Club.
- the time Adrian Shore and Suzanne McCarthy had to fish the Opera stubs out of the trash bins the morning after the performance.
- Will Hanes' speech upon Mary Joe's leaving the Presidency in which he related the trials of being a League President's husband and closed with "tonight when you're saying your prayers, please join me in thanking the Lord . . . for Aurelia."
- Martha Carlisle attending several League meetings in her bunny suit all ready for Children's Theater.
- the sight of a League husband pinned to the wall behind a cash register at the Rummage Sale.

On the same questionnaire the past Presidents revealed some more serious thoughts too. They unanimously agreed that their greatest reward was working with "an enthusiastic, capable membership." And they all said in one way or another that the League's greatest contribution to the community had been "its know how" at getting anything done it desired.

When asked how, if at all, the League changed during the decade, the response was generally agreed upon also. Perhaps Ann Ring articulates it best: "The League has changed more over this decade than at any other time due to changing societal trends. The membership is more mobile than ever before. The community problems are overwhelming in their magnitude: redevelopment and renewal, the inner city and suburbia, integration and the various methods of artificially inducing it, health, welfare, transportation, ecology, and so on *ad infinitum*. The League, always ahead of its time, has been forced into a less pensive role and one that is more action oriented.



Mary Lu Whaling, Dewitt Cordell, Debbie Sartin at Conference.



Kay Snavelly and Binney Dudley

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The League is working with other groups to carry out programs and the scope is no longer restricted to the community." Or, as someone else commented, the League is like a "big business" now.

In looking ahead they commented on the direction in which they would like to see the League go. "Pull together" was a common response, coupled with "maintain a balanced program with a wide scope of interests." Specifically, a follies (which is planned for '74) was mentioned, and the proposed residential home for retarded children was praised.

"More community involvement"; "go in the direction of the *actives*' desires"; "continue to make a difference in the community"; "(not) lessen emphasis on the selectivity of its members and subsequently the quality of their training" — all these comments perhaps represent what is best in the League after 50 years, and what may be hoped for after another 50: the desire of its members to be part of a living, growing organization, committed to reaching out farther than expected for the mutual benefit of the community, the League, and the girl.



Suzanne McCarthy and Adrian Shore at the Opera.



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Epilogue 1973



You have already read the story of the Junior League of Winston-Salem. Our League has been responsible for numerous helpful projects in welfare, the arts, health, environment, education, historical preservation, mental health, drug prevention, and juvenile delinquency. It has encouraged voluntarism among all of the citizens of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. Hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours have been given in diverse placements by League members, and the sum of approximately one-half million dollars has been contributed to our community over a fifty year span. In the first six months of this anniversary year some \$48,000 has been pledged to education and to mental health projects.

Such service and funds would not have been possible, however, without the willing assistance and eager participation of scores of citizens of Winston-Salem, either as individuals or as representatives of industry, social service agencies, and foundations. They have joined hands with us as volunteers in our programs and projects and have helped our fund-raising efforts with open hearts.

It is, therefore, our privilege and pleasure to publish this commemorative issue of our *Newssheet* and to dedicate it in gratitude to our sustainers and to the many League friends who have helped us on our way. I hope that each and every one of you will value this Fiftieth Anniversary Issue as tangible evidence of a spirit of service that is not only alive but flourishing as never before.

Caroline B. Kester
President, 1972-73

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Forward From Fifty

As we look back on a proud 50 years, we are at the same time looking forward to the next 50, knowing that change is perhaps the greatest challenge that we face. We should realize that our way of doing things that has proved successful in the past may be challenged by changing times and that we need to create new ways of dealing with new problems. We must plan ahead for our future programs and projects. We must move with the times or find ourselves left behind.

We must ask ourselves: What are the great needs of our community in these changing times? How can we as individuals and Junior League members make a difference — a real contribution? An example of our changing times is the new concept of "revenue sharing," where money is no longer divided up among Federal government programs, but instead is sent in one large lump sum to states and cities to use at their discretion. Here we have a chance to really "make a difference" if we continue to be well-informed about our community's needs and express our views as individuals, community board members and through League channels to our local and State authorities.

There is so much to be done. We can continue to contribute through our seed money, knowledge of our community, volunteer hours, as well as acting as a catalyst to bring community groups together to work towards creative solutions to community problems. We can look for opportunities to cooperate with other private initiative groups such as local foundations. In our internal Junior League program, we can strengthen training and education so that they are emphasized throughout each year as well as in the Provisional year. We can strive to make our Junior League membership appealing, exciting and personally satisfying. Since we realize that we can accomplish much more as volunteers working within the framework of the Junior League than we can as individual volunteers, we can continue to nurture and support the concept of voluntarism that is one of the greatest strengths of democracy.

A philosopher once said: "All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today." In planting our seeds for tomorrow's flowers, we are molding the destiny of our Junior League. Together, let us continue to meet the challenge of change and continue to fulfill the dreams of our founders. Forward to 2023!

Binney P. Dudley
President, 1973-74

CHARTER MEMBERS

Mrs. Thomas Armstrong	Miss Evelyn Marler
Mrs. Anthony Balkunas	Mrs. Grady Marler
Miss Marian Blair	Mrs. Robert McCuiston
Miss Anna Brown	Mrs. Forrest Miles
Mrs. Thurmond Chatham	Mrs. Paul Montague
Mrs. Stratton Coyner	Mrs. Kenneth Mountcastle
Mrs. Joseph G. Creech	Miss Dell Norfleet
Mrs. Frank Dalton	Mrs. Ralph Ogburn
Mrs. Horace DuBose	Mrs. Hugh Carter Pollard
Mrs. James Early	Mrs. Shepherd Potter
Mrs. Robert Fawcette	Mrs. Urcy K. Riee
Mrs. Luther Ferrell	Miss Abigail Roan
Mrs. Charles Hancock	Mrs. J.P. Rousseau
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Mrs. H.H. Kapp	Mrs. John Carroll Wiggins
Mrs. Charles Long	Miss Ida Wilkinson
Mrs. L.D. Long	Miss Alice Wilson
Mrs. Lucius Magette	Miss Rosalie Wilson



Charter members who attended 50th anniversary luncheon are (seated, from left) Dodge Magette, Snow Smith, Alice Wilson, Maggie Mae Stockton, Dewitt Hanes, Dell Norfleet; standing are Juliette Speer, Nell Rousseau, Christine Marler, Liz Ogburn, Fay Ives, Elsie Siewers, Margaret McCuiston, Rosalie Wilson and Kate Dalton.

highlights

*An investment of a half million dollars and hundreds of thousands
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Our 50th Anniversary Pledge to the Community: \$48,000

Home for Retarded Children \$40,000

Coordinator of Volunteer Tutorial Services \$ 8,000

During the past fifty years, the Junior League of Winston Salem has started,
supported, or assisted the following institutions and programs:

Hospital for Incurables
Visiting Houskeeper for Associated Charities
First Prenatal Clinic in N.C.
Children's Theater Program
Civil Defense Volunteer Office
Red Cross War Fund
Winston-Salem State College Library
Family Service Agency
Woman's Division of War Saving Commission
Wachovia Historical Museum
Radio Council
Arts and Crafts Association
Mental Hygiene Society
Child Guidance Clinic
Civic Music Association
Winston-Salem Symphony
Piedmont Festival
Arts Council
City-County Library
War Memorial Building Fund (Coliseum)
Baptist Hospital Pediatrics Playroom
Hospital Pediatrics Therapy Program
Pallets for Pediatrics
Hospital Fun Books

Gallery of Contemporary Art
Children's Center
Old Salem — Restoration of Timothy Vogler House
Puppets
Poke Easy Club for Handicapped Adults
Amos Cottage
Arts Supervisor, City-County Schools
Nature-Science Center
Art Kit
Clothesline Art Show
"The Nutcracker"
Presentations of Metropolitan Opera Company
Volunteer Bureau
Reading, Speech, and Psychology Center
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Creative Dramatics
Youth Opportunity Home
Environmental Council
Volunteers in the City-County Schools
Reynolda House
Great Books
Volunteers at Baptist Hospital
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Drug Education

The purpose of the Junior League is exclusively educational and charitable
and is

to promote voluntarism

to develop the potential of its members for voluntary participation in
community affairs; and

to demonstrate the effectiveness of trained volunteers.

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